



Syrinx Trio

Nermis Mieses, oboe

Susan Nelson, bassoon

Geneva Fung, piano

LYNN

Conservatory of Music

2015-2016 Season

Syrinx Trio
Nermis Mieses, oboe
Susan Nelson, bassoon
Geneva Fung, piano
Saturday, Jan. 9 – 7:30 p.m.
Count and Countess de Hoernle
International Center
Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

PROGRAM

Trio Sonata No. 5 in F Major, Jan Dismas Zelenka
ZWV 181 (1679-1745)

Allegro

Adagio

Allegro

Eric Van der Veer Varner, bassoon
Manuel Capote, cello continuo

Intermission

After the Rain (2004)

Theodor Burkali
(b. 1975)

Kalamus (2005)

Dana Wilson
(b. 1946)

Trio for oboe, bassoon and piano

David Bixler
(b. 1964)

Artist Biographies



Nermis Mieses is the Assistant Professor of Oboe at Bowling Green State University in Ohio and principal oboe of the Michigan Opera Theatre in Detroit. First American to place as finalist in the prestigious Barbirolli International Oboe Competition held in 2014; first place at the 2011 First International Oboe Competition in Santa Catarina, Brazil, and Best Interpretation of Brazilian Music Prize; as well as second place at the 2012 Society for Musical Arts Young Artist Competition in Ann Arbor, MI. She has appeared in solo performances at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Cranbrook Music Guild Series in Bloomfield Hills, MI, has soloed with the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra, Michigan Philharmonic Orchestra and toured Denmark as soloist and chamber music performer with the Thy Chamber Music Festival (2011, 2013). Former principal of the Michigan Philharmonic, she has also performed with the Ann Arbor, Sphinx, Rochester, Lexington, Puerto Rico Symphony and the National Repertory Orchestra. Previously, she held teaching positions at the University of Kentucky, Ohio Northern University and Hillsdale College. She holds D.M.A. and M.M. degrees from the University of Michigan under Dr. Nancy Ambrose King and B.M. from the Conservatory of Music of Puerto Rico under Dr. Frances Colón.



Susan Nelson is the Assistant Professor of Bassoon at Bowling Green State University (BGSU), Ohio, and enjoys an active career as a performer, teacher, and clinician. Dr. Nelson is an advocate for new music as well as chamber music for the bassoon, and is the director of the non-profit organization Bassoon Chamber Music Composition Competition (BCMCC). She has also taught bassoon and theory at Stephen F. Austin State University and played with the Stone Fort Wind Quintet in Nacogdoches, Texas. In the summer Dr. Nelson teaches at various camps, including BGSU's Double Reed Camp and the Renova Festival. She has performed with the Classical Music Festival in Eisenstadt, Austria, Michigan Opera Theatre, Shreveport Symphony Orchestra, Toledo Symphony Orchestra, Oklahoma City Philharmonic Orchestra, Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Adrian Symphony Orchestra, and Helena Symphony, among others. Dr. Nelson taught at both Adrian (MI) and Heidelberg (OH) Colleges and was a member of the Heidelberg faculty wind quintet. She also held the position of principal bassoon in the Great Falls Symphony and was a member of the Chinook Winds quintet in Great Falls, Montana. She can be heard on *Elements*, the newest release from the BCMCC through MSR Classics, which features the winning works from the 2012 and 2014 BCMCC competitions. Dr. Nelson is a graduate of the University of Kansas, the University of Oklahoma, and the University of Michigan. Her primary teachers include Jeffrey Lyman, Carl Rath, and Alan Hawkins.



Pianist Geneva Fung is a native from Hong Kong. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honors) degree from Hong Kong Baptist University, a Master of Music degree from Texas State University and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from The University of Texas at Austin. She studied and coached with Chin-chin Tan, Ming-Qiang Li, Mary Mei-Loc Wu, Timothy Woolsey, Rick Rowley, Anton Nel and Betty Mallard.

Dr. Fung has appeared as an active soloist, chamber musician and accompanist in Hong Kong and the United States. Prior to her appointment at Stephen F. Austin State University, she regularly collaborated with the finest musicians and music societies in the Central Texas area, including Cheryl Parrish, Juli Wood, Christopher Holmes, Paula Bird, Christopher Haritatos and the Gilbert and Sullivan Society at Austin. In frequent demand as a collaborative pianist, she has performed in numerous vocal and instrumental recitals and master classes. At SFA, Fung serves as accompanist for choral union, opera productions, student recitals, competitions, auditions and master classes, and she participated in the recent SFA master classes with Twyla Robinson and Evelyn Lear.

Dr. Fung is also a dedicated teacher. She highly emphasizes body-tension reduction in keyboard technique, a practice that has successfully improved her students' learning and enjoyment of music. She is currently a member of the Music Teachers National Association.



Bassoonist Eric Van der Veer Varner has enjoyed a particularly rich and varied musical career. He was the principal bassoonist with the Windsor Symphony Orchestra from 2004 through 2015. He appeared as a soloist with the orchestra on numerous occasions, where his playing was critically hailed as that “of ineffable liquid beauty”. Previously, he held positions with the Ann Arbor Symphony, the Michigan Opera Theater, and the Sarasota Opera. He performs in numerous summer festivals, including the Bellingham Festival of Music, the Michigan City Chamber Music Festival, and the Glickman-Popkin Bassoon Camp. Currently professor of bassoon and woodwind department chair at the Lynn Conservatory, Dr. Varner has previously held faculty appointments at Miami University (Ohio), Heidelberg University, and the University of Windsor. He also spent fourteen summers working at the Interlochen Arts Camp, where he was the Assistant Director of the High Schools Boys Division.

Dr. Varner is the owner of TrevCo-Varner Music, “the world’s foremost purveyor of fine sheet music for double reeds”. TrevCo-Varner Music is the largest company in the world dedicated solely to double reed music, with over 12,000 titles in stock from publishers all over the world. In his capacity as owner, he is at the forefront of the new music scene, commissioning new works, creating new editions of forgotten gems, and striving to make double reeds more accessible to the public. An active soloist and chamber musician, Dr. Varner has appeared throughout Europe, the

United States, and Canada. He is a founding member of the PEN Trio, a *trio d'anche* that explores the both traditional repertoire for reed trio, as well as championing new music. In collaboration with TrevCo Music Publishing, the *PEN Trio Collection* was recently founded in order to publish and disseminate works commissioned by the trio. The 2015 PEN Trio season includes performances in China, Hong Kong and Trinidad as well as tours in Florida and Texas. This year will also see the recording the PEN Trio's debut album, "Found Objects" with Sound Mirror in New York City, scheduled for release in 2016. Dr. Varner holds the Doctor of Musical Arts (2004) from the University of Michigan, where he also earned a Master of Music (2002) and a Bachelor of Music (1996) degree. He also holds a degree in Artistic Education (1998) from the Mannheim-Heidelberg Conservatory in Mannheim, Germany. His primary teachers were Richard Beene, Alfred Rinderspacher, Hugh Cooper and Michael Dicker.



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- Jon Robertson, dean

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For some students, meeting the costs associated with a conservatory education can be challenging. This dedicated group provides financial support for many annual and endowed scholarships. Since its establishment in 2003, the Friends have raised significant funds through annual gifts and special events. The Gingerbread Holiday Concert is chief among them.

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